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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/265,489	03/09/1999	SASHIKANTH CHANDRASEKARAN	237/116	4574

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TAM V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 10/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/265,489

Applicant(s)

CHANDRASEKARAN ET AL.

Examiner

Tam V Nguyen

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 23-26 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-26 are pending in this action. Claims 1-26 are presented for examination. This office action is in response to the request for reconsideration filed on 07/22/02.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 23-26 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed invention is directed to a method for multiple consumers to access information in a non first-in first-out, prescribed order, said information comprising one or more pieces of information, a first pieces of information stored in a first location [claim 23].

With respect to claim 23, the prior art of record, single or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest the particular step "indicating in a second location that said first consumer has accessed said first piece of information, and indicating in a third location that said second consumer has accessed said first piece of information."

The distinct feature has been added to the independent claims and renders them allowable. The limitation recited in claim 23 and their dependent claims are allowable.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments claims 13-20 filed 07/22/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argued, "Chandra reference does not teach, disclose, or suggest the system for delivery of information to multiple consumers."

In response to the argument, the recitation that has not been given patentable weight because it has been held that a preamble is denied the effect of a limitation where the claim is drawn to a structure and the portion of the claim following the preamble is a self-contained description of the structure not depending for completeness upon the introductory clause. *Kropa v. Robie*, 88 USPQ 478 (CCPA 1951). Therefore, the examiner maintains the rejection of claims 13-20.

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 and 21-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

7. Claims 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Chandra et al. (US 6058389).

Re claim 13, Chandra et al. disclose a system for the delivery of information to multiple consumers, said system comprising: an information queue comprising one or

Art Unit: 2172

more information queue records, each said information queue record comprising information to be accessed by one or more consumer, (Col. 6, lines 45-Col. 8, lines 60 and see fig. 3); a table comprising one or more table records, each said table record comprising an information identification field comprising an identification of said information in an information queue record, each said table record further comprising a consumer identification field comprising an identification of one or said one or more consumers, (Col. 6, lines 45-Col. 8, lines 60 and see fig. 3).

Re claim 14, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 13, in which each said information queue record further comprises said identification of said information of said information queue record, (Col. 27, lines 66-Col. 28, lines 68).

Re claim 15, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 13, in which each said table record further comprises a message state field that indicates if the information in said information queue identified in the corresponding information identification field of said table record has been delivered to the consumer identified in the consumer identification field of said table record, (Col 30, lines 30-Col. 32, lines 68).

Re claim 16, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 13, further comprising a read-order table, said read-order table comprising order

Art Unit: 2172

data indicating the order that information in said information queue is to be delivered to a consumer, (Col. 6, lines 12-Col. 8, lines 67).

Re claim 17, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 16, in which said read-order table comprises one or more records, each said record of said read-order table comprising an identification field that identifies information in a information queue record, each said record of said read-order table further comprising an enqueue time field that comprises said order data, (Col. 6, lines 12-Col. 8, lines 67 and Col. 11, lines 21-Col. 13, lines 65).

Re claim 18, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 13, further comprising a work list table, said work list table comprising one or more work list entries, each said work list entry comprising an identification of information in an information queue record, (Col. 6, lines 45-Col. 8, lines 60 and see fig. 2).

Re claim 19, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumers of claim 18, in which each said work list entry is a record, (Col. 6, lines 45-Col. 8, lines 60 and see fig. 2).

Re claim 20, the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 18, in which said work list table comprises one or more work records and each said work list entry is a field in a work record, (Col. 6, lines 45-Col. 8, lines 60).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sprenger et al. (US 6363388B1) in view of Rachelson (US 6157706).

Re claim 1, Sprenger discloses providing said data of an information record to a consumer, (Col. 28, lines 20-28 and Col. 25, lines 52-58); and updating a history table, said history table comprising a message table field, (Col. 13, lines 50-64 and Col. 22, lines 51-68).

Sprenger does not clearly teach, "said updating comprising setting said message state field in a history record corresponding to said consumer to indicate said consumer accessed said data."

However, Rachelson shows said updating comprising setting said message state field in a history record corresponding to said consumer to indicate said consumer accessed said data, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Sprenger with the teaching of

Art Unit: 2172

Rachelson, so the users or the consumers known which messages they have already been accessed.

Re claim 2, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 1, in which each said information record further comprises a message identifier value that identifies the data of said information record and each said history record further comprises a message id field that identifies data in an information record, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Re claim 3, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 2, in which each said history record further comprises a consumer id field that identifies a consumer of said multiple consumers that is to access data in an information record, said data identified by said message id field in said history record, said consumer id field of said history record identifying said history record as corresponding to said consumer, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Re claim 4, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 3, in which said updating comprises setting said message state field in the history record with a message id field that identifies said data that said consumer is provider access to and with a consumer id field that identifies said consumer, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).



Re claim 5, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 1, in which said history table comprises a history record for each consumer, for each information record comprising data to be provided to each said consumer, and in which prefix index key compression is used to store only one instance of a message identifier value that identifies the data of an information record in said history table for each history record for said information record, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Re claim 6, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 1, further comprising storing data to be accessed by a consumer in an information record, (Col. 9, lines 8-35); creating a history record for each consumer that is to access said data, (Col. 9, lines 8-35); and setting said message state field in each said history record to indicate said data has not been accessed, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Re claim 7, Sprenger further disclose the method for managing information of claim 1, further comprising a read-order table, said read-order table comprising order data that indicates the relative order that data in said information records is to be accessed by said multiple consumers, said method further comprising identifying the data of an information record that a consumer is to be provided access to by said order data in said read-order table, (Col. 28, lines 20-28 and Col. 25, lines 52-58).

Re claim 8, Sprenger further disclose the method for managing information of claim 1, further comprising; reading one or more history records of said history table,

Art Unit: 2172

said one or more history records comprising a history table read, (Col. 28, lines 20-28 and Col. 25, lines 52-58); and deleting an information record if all the message state fields in all of the history records of said history table read indicate that said data in said information record has been accessed, (Col. 28, lines 20-28 and Col. 25, lines 52-58).

Re claim 9, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 1, further comprising a work list table, said work list table comprising one or more work entries, each said work entry comprising an identification of data in an information record, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Re claim 10, Rachelson further disclose the method for managing information of claim 9, further comprising adding a work entry to said work list table, said work entry comprising an identification of said consumer is provided access to, (Col 9, lines 8-35).

Re claim 11, Sprenger further disclose the method for managing information of claim 9, further comprising accessing a work entry in said work list table, (Col. 13, lines 50-4 and Col. 22, lines 51-68); reading one or more history records of said history table, said one or more history records comprising a history table read, said one or more history records comprising said history table read determined by said work entry, (Col. 13, lines 50-4 and Col. 22, lines 51-68); and deleting an information record if all the message state fields in all of the history records of said history table read indicate that

said data in said information record has been accessed, (Col. 13, lines 50-4 and Col. 22, lines 51-68).

Re claim 12, Sprenger further disclose the method for managing information of claim 9, further comprising: batching two or more work entries in said work list table, (Col. 13, lines 50-4 and Col. 22, lines 51-68); and performing in a single transaction reading one or more history records of said history table, said one or more history records determined by said two or more work entries, (Col. 13, lines 50-4 and Col. 22, lines 51-68); and deleting one or more information records, (Col. 13, lines 50-4 and Col. 22, lines 51-68).

10. Claims 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chandra et al (US 6058389) in view of Rachelson (US 6157706).

Re claim 21, Chandra discloses a message queue comprising one or more message queue records, each said one or more message queue records comprising a message and a message identification, (Col. 7, lines 6-48); and a history table comprising one or more history records, each of said one or more history record comprising a message identification, a consumer identification, (Col. 7, lines 6-48); and a work list table comprising one or more work list entries, each said work list entry comprising a message identification, (Col 27, lines 65-Col. 28, lines 65 and Col. 7, lines 6-48).

Chandra does not clearly teach, " a message state identification"

Art Unit: 2172

However, Rachelson shows a message state identification, (Col. 9, lines 8-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Chandra with the teaching of Rachelson, so the users or the consumers known which messages they have already been accessed.

Re claim 22, Chandra further discloses the system for the delivery of information to multiple consumer of claim 21, further comprising a read-order table comprising one or more read-order records, each said read-order record comprising a message identification and order data, said order data indicating the relative order that the message of said message queue that is identified by the message identification of said read-order record is to be delivered to a consumer, (Col. 6, lines 12-Col. 8, lines 67 and Col. 11, lines 21-Col. 13, lines 65).

Art Unit: 2172

**Contact Information**

**11. Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tam V Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3735. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-5: 00PM.**

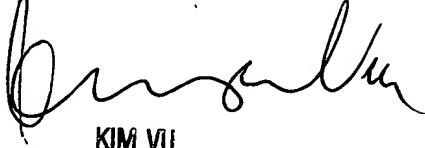
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Yen Vu can be reached on (703) 305-4393. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for formal communications and (703) 746-7240 for informal communications.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202. Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

**12. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.**

TV:tv

10/4/02

  
KIM VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100